

Active in professional and civic organizations, Judge Friedman is a founding member of both The House of Ruth, Inc. Baltimore, and the Women's Law Center. As a member of the Women's Law Center she wrote the first manual for battered women and her work on domestic violence became the foundation for Baltimore's House of Ruth.

From 1975–1978, Judge Friedman was the Chair of the Governor's Commission to Study Implementation of the Equal Rights Amendment in Maryland. As Chair, she led and organized effort to improve the legal status of both men and women with the enactment of major legislation in criminal law, domestic law, employment, education, insurance, credit and house.

March 1, 2001, marked Judge Friedman's 16th year as an Associate Judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. For nine years between 1987 and 1996, she served as the Judge in Charge of the Domestic Dockets. During this period, Judge Friedman sought to continue efforts to create a Family Court in Maryland. As Judge in Charge, she instituted a variety of innovative projects, including a Domestic Violence Project, Parenting Seminars, and Differential Case Management. Judge Friedman's visions of a family court was realized on Oct. 18, 2001 with the dedication of the Circuit Court Family Division.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in wishing Judge Friedman a well deserved retirement and thanking her for her commitment to justice and to public service.

HONORING COMMUNICATING FOR AGRICULTURE AND SELF-EMPLOYED ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, one of our country's leading rural organizations, Communicating for Agriculture and the Self-employed, is celebrating their 30th anniversary this year.

In the beginning, CA stood for Creamery Association and was made up largely of dairy farmers in cooperative creameries in western Minnesota and eastern North Dakota. In 1972 Milt Smedsrud founded the modern CA in Fergus Falls, Minnesota and the organization has since grown into a highly-respected national non-profit association representing tens of thousands of members, including farm, ranch, small business and self-employed members nationwide.

CA is a non-partisan organization known for legislative advocacy of common sense public policy, support of the private market system, dependable information, and for effective service programs for its members.

One example of CA's advocacy work is their push for rural Americans' access to affordable, quality health care. In 1976, they were a lead supporter of legislation passed by the Minnesota legislature that established one of the first two state high-risk health insurance pools. Today, 30 states have passed legislation to establish health insurance risk pools guaranteeing that every one of their citizens has an opportunity to purchase health insurance pro-

tection. CA continues to work with several states to provide reliable information about risk pools.

As a strong voice for family agriculture, CA continues to work for an effective farm economic safety net. In particular, they've been known for work on federal and state finance programs helping beginning farmers and ranchers. Sixteen states operate Aggie Bond tax-exempt beginning farmers programs today, largely with CA's efforts. More than 6,000 young farmers and ranchers have been assisted through these programs since the first program was started in Iowa in 1981.

Throughout their history, CA has been a forceful advocate for small business, and a particularly strong voice for fair tax policies for the self-employed, small business and agriculture.

CA has also been a strong supporter of the education of young people. In 1985, the CA International Exchange Program was initiated to provide young people the opportunity to train and experience life and personal growth overseas. Today, CA exchange program has become the largest program of its kind in the country. Through CA's Scholarship and Education Foundation, more than \$1.5 million has been raised and distributed to help young rural Americans throughout the country to further their education or take part in the international exchange program.

Mr. Speaker, In the recent past, there's been a simple slogan used to describe CA's mission—"Good Ideas for Rural America." I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the past achievements of Communicating for Agriculture and the Self-Employed and wish them continued success in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF WILLARD B. SIMMONS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished constituent and colleague, a leader in the pharmacy profession, who passed away earlier this year just two weeks shy of his 96th birthday, Mr. Willard B. Simmons. Mr. Simmons' 96 years in this world were spent serving his profession, his community, and his family.

Simmons was born in Myrtis, Louisiana, on February 22, 1906. His father, Hardy A. Simmons, Sr., was a pharmacist who owned his own drugstore, a profession the younger Simmons chose to follow. He graduated from the Little Rock College of Pharmacy in 1924 and was licensed to practice in both Arkansas and Texas. He worked in his father's pharmacy in Bloomburg, Texas, for several years, and then the two formed a partnership and bought a store in Texarkana, naming it the Modern Simmons Drug Company.

In his career, Simmons assumed a position of leadership on committees in the Texas Pharmaceutical Association, serving three times as president of the Texarkana Retail Druggists Association. He served as vice president of the Arkansas Pharmaceutical Association and was a two-time president of the Texarkana Chamber of Commerce.

Willard Simmons is best remembered for his work as executive secretary and general manager of the National Association of Retail Druggists (NARD), the former namesake of National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA). He assumed this role in 1961, and over the course of his tenure, helped the association overcome many challenges facing the pharmacy industry in the 1960's and early 1970's.

Simmons also left his mark on our Nation's Capital. He established both the NARD annual legislative conference in Washington and the NARD Political Action Committee, with its motto "Get Into Politics or Get Out of Pharmacy." Simmons seemed to live that motto and became personal friends with then Representatives Wright Patman and Jake Pickle, as well as former President Lyndon B. Johnson. He was a frequent visitor to the White House and was responsible for extending the association's lobbying efforts throughout Washington. His work influenced legislation and fair trade issues affecting not only the pharmaceutical industry, but small businesses just like his across the Nation.

The NCPA has fittingly recognized Willard Simmons' outstanding career and exemplary life by establishing the Willard B. Simmons Independent Pharmacist of the Year award, which recognizes an independent pharmacist for exemplary leadership and commitment to independent pharmacy and to the community.

While Willard Simmons may no longer be with us, his legacy and spirit will live on in all whose lives he touched. I wish to extend my continued sympathies to his wife, Eloise, his son Willard, Jr., his granddaughter, Savannah, his brother and sisters, Hardy Simmons, Dorothy Simmons, and Mary Blizzard, and all his family and friends. They can take great pride in his lifetime of accomplishment and service to the pharmacy profession and his fellow citizens.

IN RECOGNITION OF DONALD W. JONES

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald Wallace Jones, and his brother Jack V. Jones, both veterans of World War II. The Jones brothers both left high school early to join the Navy and fight for the United States during World War II. After the war, Donald Jones continued his education by receiving a GED, taking courses at the University of Houston, and completing a 5-year apprenticeship program in plumbing, but he never received his high school diploma. That will change on June 1st, 2002, as a result of a Texas Senate bill, passed in May, 2001, that authorizes certain WWII veterans to apply for and receive a high school diploma. Donald W. Jones will participate in graduation ceremonies and receive his high school diploma from Davis High School in the Houston, Texas Independent School District, along with his brother, Jack V. Jones. The two brothers will share their proud moment with friends and family who are arriving for the ceremony from all over the country. Two of Donald Jones' granddaughters work in my office in Washington, DC, and will fly to Texas to see their